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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

November 29, 2000

Sir / Madame,

I am writing to urge the FDA Dockets Management Branch to grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals- **Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1**.

It is an issue of **health**, and of **common sense**.

Do you want your family eating meat from animals that are **too sick or injured to stand**? This increases the risks of bacterial contamination and there is evidence some downed animals may even be afflicted with "**Mad Cow Disease**" which is linked to the **fatal human illness, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease**.

By eliminating the market for downed animals, it will be in the industry's best interest to prevent injury and illness in their livestock. It is estimated that about **ninety percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling**.

Money is a great motivator. If only healthy animals are profitable, moral and **humane behavior becomes financially prudent**. Money and time previously spent dragging downed animals to market with chains, or pushing them with tractors, could be spent treating injured and ill animals, protecting the owner's investment. Those animals too sick to recover could be quickly and humanely euthanized, thus removing them from contact with healthy animals and **ending intolerable animal suffering**.

Please grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals- Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1!!!

Sincerely yours,
Jane L. Leikind

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